

Christmas Gift Boxes & Lock-In

The holidays are upon us again and it is time for our annual Christmas Gift Boxes & Lock-in. This is one of the greatest activities we do all year. The expression of joy on the faces of the families we help when 25 or more teenagers enter their small homes bearing a dozen or more boxes of food and better than four huge bags of presents bring out the true meaning of “it is better to give than to receive.” God has blessed us all with families, friends, and caring hearts. It is wonderful to be able to share a portion of our blessings with others. This year we have been able to get two families from our church to help provide some of their holiday necessities. The list that follows should give you an idea of some of the items for which they are in the greatest need. **Please bring** two grocery bags full of food when you come so that we might distribute them among the families. A brief description of the families is listed below. A suggested list of items to bring is provided in order to help make this effort a success.

We historically provide two families, associated with the 9th Street Church of Christ’s “JOY Ministry”, a portion of their holiday needs. Several weeks in advance we receive a few details about the family and their needs. Our families provide a portion of their holiday food and often several gifts for the family members such as cloths and toys for the children. A sample of the family information is as follows:

Family #1

- Former members at Broadway
- Recently divorced single mother with 2 boys.
- They like most anything with a “football” theme
- The younger boy really wants a “freestyle” bicycle
(we could pool several donations and purchase this item from Wal-mart)
- The older boy wants boxers and “no show” socks

	Grade	Age	Pants	Shirt	Shoes
Boy	6	11	34-32	L	5
Boy	10	15	36-34	XL	11

Family #2

- Involved in the “JOY” ministry at 9th Street
- Single Mother with 3 children

	Grade	Age	Pants	Shirt
Boy	7	12	36	XL
Boy	3	8	9-10	9-10
Girl	K	4	4T	4T

Items needed*

Cereal	Instant Mixes	Canned Meat (tuna)	Dried Beans	Juices
Crackers	(stuffing, potatoes, rice, etc.)	Diapers (for infants)	Rice-a-Roni	Soap
Vanilla Wafers	Canned Soups	Toilet Paper	Laundry Detergent	Chips
Graham Crackers	Peanut Butter	Paper Towels	Jell-O	Shampoo
Macaroni & Cheese	Jelly	Pancake Mix	Tea Bags	etc

* This is by no means an exhausted list. It is just to get you thinking. If there are any items we might have left off and you think these families might need, feel free to include them.

Special Notes

- If possible, we would like each of you to bring one gift for each child with your bags of food.
- Please bring a wrapped White Elephant (gag) gift not to exceed \$3.00 in value.
- The lock-in costs \$25 and invite a friend.
 - Please do NOT bring green beans or corn as the benevolence pantry has a great quantity of these items from which we can gather.
 - Perishable items will be bought the day of delivery.

Vital Lock-In Information:

Who: High School & Middle School

Where: BYG room, FLC, All around town

When: Friday, December 12 @ 5 PM – Saturday, December 13 @ 7 AM

What to Bring: \$20, a friend, two bags of food, gift for each child, & a wrapped gag gift for you and your friend